

placed on the list of National Historic Buildings. This honor was attributed to the church's Victorian Gothic architectural design, the melodious bell in the steeple towering over the brilliant stained glass windows, and its long and storied history.

Unfortunately, hardship struck on February 10, 1990, when a tornado swept through the community and severely damaged the church. As plans were drawn to restore the building, a second tornado created further damage to the structure on February 22, 1990. In a demonstration of compassion and unity, a great number of nearby churches opened their doors to the members of St. John. Reverend Elijah Smith, alongside other officers and the congregation, accepted the generous invitation extended to them by the Reverend Eugene Adams, Jr. from the nearby Saint James A.M.E. Church.

Eventually, the members of the St. John family made the decision to relocate and build a new church on Steam Mill Road in Columbus. The grand opening ceremony for the new location took place on September 2, 1991.

While the original location of the church is no longer in service, its members still consider that first edifice near and dear to their hearts. Thankfully, certain items, such as the stained glass windows, brass railings, and various pieces of furniture, were salvaged from the original location and artfully incorporated into the new church.

The story of St. John A.M.E. and its long history of coming together through the good and difficult times is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord. Today, the church continues to flourish under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Debora F. Grant.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church on its 144 remarkable years of worship and service in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF IRONWORKERS LOCAL UNION 155

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ironworkers Local Union 155 (Local 155) organization in celebration of their 100th anniversary.

On March 11, 1914, the Local 155 came into existence. The Local 155 was founded by great visionaries who saw an opportunity to extend the services of a Local Union to the Central Valley. Starting off from humble beginnings with just a mere \$28.50 in their general fund, the Local 155 has grown into a leader in the ironworker industry for not only California's Central Valley but also in parts of Nevada.

The Local 155 attributes much of their success to the founding fathers of the union. Their first president, L.R. Boltinghouse, Financial Secretary, Paul Kidd, and Recording Secretary, T.F. Harrigan all took the risk and responsibility of starting a Local Union. Their efforts paved the way for many more officers and workers to follow in their footsteps and become a part of the Local 155.

The Local 155 is a union which works to enrich the lives of residents in the Central Valley. They have proudly served the Fresno area and have made outstanding strides for the local economy. Although the Local 155 has battled some tough times, they always continue on with impressive resiliency. In addition, they have made great progress to improve the working conditions and wages for ironworkers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Ironworkers Local Union 155 in celebration of the 100th Anniversary. I would like to thank them for their service in the Central Valley and wish them many more years of success.

PERIPHERAL AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPATHIES AWARENESS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to rare and serious autoimmune neuropathies such as Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN), and related conditions. These diseases cause the body's immune system to attack healthy organs and tissues. In the case of conditions like GBS, CIDP, and MMN, the immune system attacks the body's peripheral nervous system.

As we find with so many ailments, awareness, recognition, and an early and accurate diagnosis are key to mitigating the serious health consequences of peripheral autoimmune neuropathies. The earlier treatment begins, the better the prognosis for the affected individual. These conditions can be progressive, and any delays in medical intervention can result in the patient being completely immobilized and using a ventilator to breathe, with the potential for residual damage and disability. Essentially, the more damage that is done to the nervous system, the longer it takes to heal.

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), symptoms are related to the type of affected nerve and may be seen over a period of days, weeks, or years. Muscle weakness is the most common symptom of motor nerve damage. Other symptoms may include painful cramps and uncontrolled muscle twitching visible under the skin, muscle loss, bone degeneration, and changes in the skin, hair, and nails. NIH plays a crucial role in the effort to combat these conditions, as treatment options are limited and diagnosis can be difficult. While there are many known triggers for the conditions, the underlying causes have yet to be defined. Investment in medical research and scientific innovation is needed to identify the root cause of these conditions and to improve the lives of affected individuals.

This October, the GBS/CIDP Foundation International is coordinating the 13th International Symposium on GBS, CIDP, MMN, and related conditions. This event will bring leading scientific minds, patients, and other stakeholders together with the goal of advancing our understanding of these conditions and improving care for affected individuals. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this

community's ongoing effort to raise awareness and advance medical research. We extend our sincerest gratitude and strong support as these dedicated individuals come together to collectively reach toward knowledge, cures, and the promise of healthier lives for all.

RECOGNIZING ARROWHEAD BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. on receiving the Small Business of the Year award presented by the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. arrived in the Branson area four years ago and has made its mission to develop relationships and trust in the community. Arrowhead prides itself on integrity, a principle that has helped it fit in well with the Branson community.

With services like same day delivery, roofing recycling bins, and job lockers, Arrowhead provides value that other suppliers simply cannot match. Arrowhead designs and builds all of its own delivery equipment, job lockers, and shingling recycling bins. Manufacturing its own products allows it to save time and service more customers in a day.

Arrowhead has gone above and beyond to become a part of the Branson community and we are lucky to have it and the outstanding services it provides to customers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Arrowhead Building Supply, Inc. on receiving the Small Business of the Year award.

PROMOTING JOB CREATION AND REDUCING SMALL BUSINESS BURDENS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I oppose The Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act, (H.R. 5405). This bill contains 11 separate bills some of which I support and some I oppose. This legislation contains a number of potentially significant deregulatory measures, many of which are being addressed by regulatory action by the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodities Futures Trading Commission. These bills stop those productive efforts replacing them with sweeping deregulation which I think is worse for investors and the economy.

I specifically wish to draw attention to my concerns with The Small Company Disclosure Simplification Act (H.R. 4164)—Title VII of this bill. This bill would exempt nearly 60 percent of public companies from complying with the EXTensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) requirement. XBRL is an improvement the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) started in 2009 to enable more efficient investing, especially investing in smaller firms. Instead of investors, the public and regulators

reading and analyzing reams of paper filings, the market would be brought into the 21st Century with a searchable electronic database. Clearly, a searchable electronic database on companies' financial statements is much more efficient than requiring investors read reams and reams of documents.

When this bill came before the Financial Services Committee on March 14, 2014, I voted yes on this bill. I was concerned that the SEC was not paying adequate attention to ensure the accuracy of the XBRL database. Since that vote, the SEC has started enforcing the accuracy of the XBRL data format. The SEC sent out letters in July, 2014, to many firms urging their correct inaccurate reporting. The SEC action and my own research into the need for accessible corporate financial information to grow companies has made me oppose this broad exemption.

Congress should encourage, not discourage the move toward data-based financial reporting. An expansion of structured data enable investors to make better and faster decisions, especially related to smaller firms; strengthens the SEC's oversight ability and makes it easier to discover fraud and simplifies compliance responsibilities for firms.

More progress is still needed at the SEC. The agency still collects the same financial statement from each public company twice—once as a document and again as XBRL data. And last July's letters were only a start. To make disclosures more useful to investors and less burdensome to companies, the agency must continue to improve data quality and must combine the two submissions into one. The Small Company Disclosure Simplification Act would prevent the SEC from ever taking these steps. If the agency is legally required to collect only documents, not XBRL data, from a majority of public companies, it will be unable to continue, and complete, the transformation that it began in 2009.

I submit a blog post from the Data Transparency Coalition detailing the ramifications of H.R. 5405 on data transparency.

[From <http://datacoalition.blogspot.com/2014/09/new-proposal-includes-xbrl-exemption.html>]

NEW PROPOSAL INCLUDES XBRL EXEMPTION—
AND MAJOR SETBACK FOR OPEN DATA
(Data Transparency Coalition; September 10, 2014)

The Data Transparency Coalition advocates on behalf of the private sector and the public interest for the publication of government information as standardized, machine-readable data.

UPDATE: ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2014, H.R. 5405 PASSED THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY A VOTE OF 320 TO 102.

A major setback for open government data may be on the agenda for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Despite the opposition of the tech industry, Rep Robert Hurt's proposal to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to stop collecting financial data from most public companies has been included as part of a new legislative package—a new bill introduced on Monday, Sept. 8, by Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick and a number of other Republican members.

The new bill, H.R. 5405, brings together ten previous bills into a single one. One of those ten is Rep. Hurt's previous proposal, included in the new bill verbatim. Judging from the urgency of the current House schedule, H.R. 5405 could see action by the House of Representatives as early as next week.

Nine out of the ten bills included in H.R. 5405 have already been approved, as stand-alone bills, by bipartisan majorities in either the Financial Services Committee or the full House. (The Financial Services Committee passed Rep. Hurt's original bill in March 2014.) So it seems clear that the backers of H.R. 5405 want to craft a bill that will pass the House easily, without serious opposition.

H.R. 5405's introduction conveys that the bill is non-controversial by stating three innocuous purposes:

To make technical corrections to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, to enhance the ability of small and emerging growth companies to access capital through public and private markets, to reduce regulatory burdens . . .

But H.R. 5405, if approved by the House, introduced and passed in the Senate, and signed into law by President Obama, will dramatically restrict the availability of searchable corporate financial data to investors—and to the tech companies building investment tools.

Supporters of open data in financial regulatory reporting will remember that the SEC collects an open data version of each financial statement in the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) structured data format, alongside the old-fashioned plain-text version, from every public company registered in the United States. Investors, markets, and the public can use the XBRL version of each financial statement to create a fully searchable data set of all U.S. public company databases. XBRL data supports free tools for investors like RankandFiled.com. It is also used by infomediaries like Morningstar and Thomson Reuters to enrich the information they deliver to paying clients.

Rep. Hurt's proposal, now incorporated into H.R. 5405, would direct the SEC to exempt all public companies with revenues below \$250 million—a majority of public companies—from the obligation to file an open data version. Supporters of the exemption claim that XBRL-formatted financial statements cost “tens of thousands of dollars” to create, but Financial Executive International found a median annual cost of \$2,000 for small companies (page 19) and some providers offer XBRL preparation services at even lower prices.

Supporters of the exemption had one valid point last spring: at that time, the SEC had not taken any steps to ensure the quality of the XBRL filings. Without assurance that the open data versions of financial statements were reliable, investors were reluctant to use them, and relied on the plain-text versions instead. But last summer, after a year of advocacy from open data allies in Congress, the SEC took its first public steps toward enforcing better data quality. As quality improves, investors and the tech companies serving them will make more use of the open data financial statements.

The companies themselves will benefit, too. Open, structured data delivers information more efficiently to the markets, which makes it easier for smaller companies to find eager investors and brings down their capital costs.

H.R. 5405 would cut off such progress by forcing the SEC to use documents, not open data, to collect corporate financial information.

Fans of open data should make their opposition to this portion of H.R. 5405 known.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF KATHRYN CARANLIK SIMON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a precious friend and an extraordinarily accomplished and loving woman, Kathryn Caranlik Simon, who died on September 17, 2014, at the age of 62.

A native of San Francisco and raised in South San Francisco, Kathy owned her own public affairs consulting business through which she worked as a community relations strategist, building and winning public support and approval of several high-profile projects. She played an instrumental role in several prominent San Francisco Peninsula development projects, including the Bay Meadows residential and retail complex in San Mateo, the IKEA store in East Palo Alto and the substantial renovation of Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City.

A graduate of Skyline College in San Bruno and San Jose State University, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in public relations, Kathy Simon began her career at Ampex in Redwood City, worked at Shaklee Corp. in Emeryville, and for local public relations agencies before launching her own public affairs consulting business, Simon Communications.

Through her firm she partnered with other leading consultants specializing in strategic communications with residents to win support and approval for many of the Peninsula's high-profile, and often controversial, projects. She also was a key campaign advisor and communications strategist for local elected officials.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 1991, Kathy was among the organizers of the Community Breast Health Project, a Palo Alto-based organization dedicated to providing information, treatment options and mammograms to breast cancer patients. The group recently expanded its charter to other cancers and was recently renamed Bay Area Cancer Connections.

Active in the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Cross in Belmont, Ms. Simon was a member of the Board of Directors of Philoptochos, a women's organization that engages in community-based charitable works.

A resident of Redwood City for more than three decades, Ms. Simon is survived by her lifelong love, her husband, Mark, an executive with a local transit agency; her sons, David of New York City and Alex of Redwood City; her daughter-in-law, Jeanette O'Donoghue Simon; two granddaughters, Dylan Rose Simon and Sloane Kathryn Simon; two sisters, Elaine Adams of Santa Cruz and Beverly Heppler of Concord; and many nieces and nephews.

Kathy Simon's beloved husband Mark perfectly captured the essence of Kathy in his description of her as a woman of extraordinary courage, with an unstinting heart of gold and a fierce and proud love for her family and friends. I consider myself deeply privileged to have known Kathy and to have called her my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere condolences to the Simon family. Kathy Simon was a special person who has been taken from us too soon, but her life was a gift to each person who had